

**SOUTH CAROLINA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
COLUMBIA, SOUTH CAROLINA**

**STATE AUDITOR'S REPORT**

**JUNE 30, 2019**



## Independent Accountant's Report On Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures

May 7, 2020

Mr. Robert M. Hitt, III, Secretary of Commerce  
South Carolina Department of Commerce  
Columbia, South Carolina

We have performed the procedures described in Attachment 1, which were agreed to by the management of the South Carolina Department of Commerce (the Department), on the systems, processes and behaviors related to financial activity of the Department for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2019. The Department's management is responsible for the systems, processes and behaviors related to financial activity. The sufficiency of these procedures is solely the responsibility of the specified parties in this report. Consequently, we make no representation regarding the sufficiency of the procedures described in Attachment 1 either for the purpose for which the agreed-upon procedures report has been requested or for any other purpose.

This agreed-upon procedures engagement was conducted in accordance with attestation standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. We were not engaged to and did not conduct an examination or review, the objective of which would be an opinion or conclusion, respectively, on the systems, processes and behaviors related to financial activity of the Department. Accordingly, we do not express an opinion or conclusion. Had we performed additional procedures, other matters might have come to our attention that would have been reported to you.

The concept of materiality does not apply to findings to be reported in an agreed-upon procedures engagement. Therefore, all findings from the application of the agreed-upon procedures must be reported unless the definition of materiality is agreed to by the specified parties. Management of the Department has agreed that the following deficiencies will not be included in the State Auditor's Report on Applying Agreed-Upon Procedures:

- Errors of less than \$1,000 related to cash receipts and non-payroll cash disbursements transactions.
- Errors of less than \$1,000 related to reporting packages.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the management of the South Carolina Department of Commerce and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties. However, this report is a matter of public record and its distribution is not limited.

George L. Kennedy, III, CPA  
State Auditor

**South Carolina Office of the State Auditor**

**Agreed - Upon Procedures Related to the South Carolina Department of Commerce (P32)**

**Cash Receipts/Revenues**

1. Compare current year revenues at the fund and account level from sources other than State General Fund appropriations to those of the prior year. Obtain from management an understanding of variations for the following: Earmarked Fund: Excess Debt Service Fund Transfer - General Ledger (G/L) account 4890400000.
2. Haphazardly select ten cash receipts transactions and inspect supporting documentation to:
  - Ensure supporting documentation for transaction agrees with the general ledger as to amount, date, payor, document number, and account classification.
  - Determine that revenues/receipts were deposited in a timely manner, in accordance with Proviso 117.1 of the Appropriation Act.
  - Ensure that both revenue collections and amounts charged are properly authorized by law.
  - Determine that receipts are recorded in the proper fiscal year.

We found no exceptions as a result of these procedures.

**Cash Disbursements/Non-Payroll Expenditures**

3. Compare current year non-payroll expenditures at the fund and account level to those of the prior year. Obtain from management an understanding of variations for the following: Earmarked Fund: G/L account series 507 - Land, Buildings, and Infrastructure, and G/L account series 517 - Allocations; Federal Fund: G/L account series 502 - Contractual Services.
4. Haphazardly select ten non-payroll disbursements and inspect supporting documentation to determine:
  - The transaction is properly completed as required by Department procedures; invoice(s) agree(s) with general ledger as to vendor, amount, number, and date.
  - All supporting documents and approvals required by Department procedures are present and agree with the invoice.
  - The transaction is a bona fide expenditure of the Department.
  - The transaction is properly classified in the general ledger.
  - Disbursement complied with applicable State laws, rules, and regulations including the State Consolidated Procurement Code, state travel regulations etc.
  - Disbursements are recorded in the proper fiscal year.
  - Clerical accuracy / confirm proper sales/use tax.

For federally funded cash disbursements/non-payroll expenditures, inspect supporting documentation to determine:

- Charges are necessary and reasonable for the proper administration of the program, incurred during the approved grant period, given consistent accounting treatment and applied uniformly to both federally assisted and other activities of the recipient.

## **Cash Disbursements/Non-Payroll Expenditures (Continued)**

5. Haphazardly select ten purchasing card transactions from the Office of the State Comptroller General's (CG) listing of purchasing card transactions for Fiscal Year 2019 and inspect supporting documentation to determine:
  - The cardholder is an authorized user and individual credit limits have been properly approved in accordance with Department policies.
  - The purchase is authorized based on the cardholder's job title/position.
  - The monthly purchase summary was submitted along with applicable receipts and signed by both the supervisor and cardholder.
  - The purchase did not exceed the single transaction limit or the individual credit limit and there was no indication of transaction splitting.

We found no exceptions as a result of these procedures.

## **Payroll**

6. Compute the percentage distribution of fringe benefit expenditures by fund source and compare to the actual distribution of recorded personal service expenditures by fund source. Obtain an explanation of variations greater than 10%.
7. Compare the percentage change in personal service expenditures between the current year and prior year to the percentage change in employer contributions expenditures between the current year and prior year. Obtain an explanation of changes greater than 10%.
8. Haphazardly select five employees who terminated employment during the fiscal year to determine if they were removed from the payroll in accordance with the Department's policies and procedures, that the employee's last pay check was properly calculated and that the employee's leave payout was properly calculated in accordance with applicable State law.
9. Haphazardly select five bonus pay disbursements to determine:
  - The employee does not make more than \$100,000 annually.
  - The bonuses received during the year did not exceed \$3,000.
  - The payment amount agreed to supporting documentation and the bonus was given for a proper reason in accordance with Department policy.
  - The bonus pay was approved by the appropriate supervisor.

We found no exceptions as a result of these procedures.

## **Journal Entries and Transfers**

10. Haphazardly select five journal entries and/or transfers for the fiscal year to:
  - Trace postings to the general ledger, confirming amounts agree with supporting documentation.
  - Confirm transaction is properly approved.
  - Inspect supporting documentation to confirm the purpose of the transaction.

We found no exceptions as a result of this procedure.

## Reporting Packages

11. Obtain copies of fiscal year end reporting packages submitted to the CG. Inspect the Master Reporting Package Checklist to determine the appropriate reporting packages were submitted by the due date established by the CG's Reporting Policies and Procedures Manual.

12. In addition to the procedure above, perform the following:

- Cash and Investments Reporting Package

Determine if responses are reasonable/accurate based on inspection of the South Carolina Enterprise Information System (SCEIS) general ledger, the SCEIS Yearend Rptg - Cash and Investments report and/or Department prepared records. In addition, determine if amounts agree to State Treasurer's Office Composite Bank Account reports and year end reconciliations.

- Operating Leases Reporting Package

Confirm that the Department submitted copies of all leases to the CG in accordance with the reporting package instructions. Additionally, agree applicable effective lease dates and future minimum payments on the Future Minimum Payment Schedule to the prior year schedule. Inspect any changes to determine if the effective lease dates and future minimum payments were properly calculated and reported on the Future Minimum Payment Schedule.

- Accounts Payable

Determine if responses and reported amounts are reasonable/accurate based on the inspection of the SCEIS general ledger, SCEIS Yearend Rptg - Prior Year Payables with Vendor and/or Department prepared records. In addition, haphazardly select eight payables to determine if reported amounts were properly identified, classified, and reported on the Accounts Payable Summary Form.

- Miscellaneous Loss Liabilities, Loss Contingencies, and Commitments Reporting Package

Haphazardly select three commitments to determine if reported amounts and descriptions are reasonable/accurate based on inspection of invoices and/or contractual agreements, and/or other Department maintained documentation.

- Subsequent Events Questionnaire

Determine if responses are reasonable/accurate and any required supplemental information was properly prepared and submitted based on inspection of the SCEIS general ledger and/or Department prepared records.

## Finding

The future minimum payments reported for one lease agreement was misstated on the operating leases future minimum payment schedule due to the use of an incorrect monthly rent amount from October 2020 through September 2021. Specifically, the fiscal year 2021 and 2022 payments for one of the Department's office leases was overstated by an aggregate total of \$3,068.

## **Reporting Packages (Continued)**

### **Management's Response**

The Department will take the necessary steps to correct the future minimum payment schedule.

### **Composite Reservoir Accounts**

13. Obtain a listing of the Department composite reservoir accounts and confirm that the listing is complete.
14. Confirm that the Department submitted the required Bank Account Transparency and Accountability Report to the State Fiscal Accountability Authority by October first of the fiscal year in accordance with Proviso 117.83 of the fiscal year 2019 Appropriation Act.
15. Obtain fiscal year monthly reconciliations for each composite reservoir account, excluding Palmetto Partners, and for two haphazardly selected reconciliations, perform the following procedures:
  - Determine that selected reconciliations were timely performed, reviewed, and properly documented in accordance with State regulations, and are mathematically correct.
  - Agree applicable amounts from reconciliations to the general ledger.
  - Agree applicable amounts from reconciliations to the State Treasurer's Office monthly reports.
  - Determine if reconciling differences were adequately explained and properly resolved.
  - Determine if necessary adjusting entries were made in the accounting records.
16. Haphazardly select and inspect five composite reservoir account receipts to determine that they were properly described and classified in the accounting records in accordance with the Department's policies and procedures and State regulations and that they were recorded in the proper fiscal year, and that any retention or remittance of revenue is supported by law.
17. Haphazardly select and inspect five composite reservoir account disbursements to determine if these disbursements were properly described and classified in the accounting records in accordance with the Department's policies and procedures and State regulations, were bona fide disbursements of the Department, were paid in conformity with State laws and regulations and that goods and/or services were procured in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.

We found no exceptions as a result of these procedures.

### **Assets and Personal Property**

18. Confirm that an inventory of Department property, excluding expendables, was completed during the fiscal year as required by South Carolina Code of Laws Section 10-1-140.

We found no exceptions as a result of this procedure.

### **Appropriation Act / Department-Specific Provisos**

19. Confirm that the Department submitted to the State Human Affairs Commission employment and filled vacancy data by race and sex by October thirty-first of the fiscal year in accordance with Proviso 117.13 of the 2019 Appropriation Act.

## **Appropriation Act / Department-Specific Provisos (Continued)**

20. Confirm compliance with selected agreed-upon Department-specific state provisos of the FY19 Appropriation Act by inquiring with management and observing supporting documentation, where applicable.

We found no exceptions as a result of these procedures.

### **Non-Recurring Revenue Proviso 118.15**

21. Confirm compliance with the four proviso appropriations, inspecting Department supporting documentation to agree to stated proviso purpose and amount.

We found no exceptions as a result of this procedure.

### **Status of Prior Findings**

22. Through inquiry and inspection, determine if the Department has taken appropriate corrective action on the findings reported during the engagement for the prior fiscal year.

We determined the Department has taken adequate corrective action on the prior year findings, with the exception of a similar finding related to the Operating Leases Reporting Package. See finding at **Reporting Packages**.